

Brave Resolution of Sir Edward Peto ...
 [Warwick Castle] 1642 -
 etc.

BRAVE Resolution (The) of Sir Edward Peto, Governour of Warwick Castle; in a Letter sent from a Gentleman in Warwick to ... London ... the Earle of Northampton's sons coming into Warwick ... attempt upon the castle ... Peto's valorous resolution in maintaining [it] for the King and Parliament, and how he hung out his winding sheet and Bible ... Information to the Parliament concerning the violence the Cavaliers use [etc.], Read in the House ... and ordered to be forthwith printed ... Printed for Jo. Hansot [? Hanson] [August], 1642

Folio, broadside. A RARE NEWSHEET; we cannot trace it under any heading in Wing or the Thomason catalogue. It describes an alleged encounter with gunfire and some deaths ("there are not many yet slaine") between those such as Peto who, one notes, still make a point of claiming loyalty "to King and Parliament", and the Cavaliers or Papists, whose besieging Lords included Northampton, Derby, Berkshire, and Dunsmore. A further paragraph at the foot recounts alleged shooting of men who declared themselves "for King and Parliament" by troopers (cavaliers) at Kilsby. It occurred on "Tuesday the 9th of this instant August". Charles raised his standard at Nottingham on August 22nd; Worcester was fought on Sept. 23. This preliminary outbreak of violence is even earlier than the skirmishing in Kent described in the *Perfect Diurnall* described in our Cat. 100, item 39.

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The brave resolution of Sir *Edward Peto*, Governour of Warwick Castle: in a Letter sent from a Gentleman in Warwick to his friend in London, wherein is related the Earle of Northamp-tons sons comming into Warwick, and his attempt upon the castle, and of Sir *Edward Peto's* valorous resolution in maintain- ing the castle against him for the King and Parliament, and how he hung out his winding sheet and Bible, as a testimony of his fidelitie to the King and Parliament.

Also an Information of some Gentlemen to the Parliament, concerning the violence the Cavaliers use upon all those that will not deliver up their Armes, or such as declare themselves for the King and Parliament, taken by the Deputy-Lieutenants.



His day Seven-night in the morning, my Lord of Northampton, with the Earles of Darby, Berk shire, and the Lord *Dunsmore*, and all their Forces came to Banbury, and there they had small opposition, the Ordnance was delivered; and from thence with all speed they went to Warwick, to my Lord *Brooks* his Castle: the Towne, unexpectedly to them of the Castle, let in my Lord *Compton* with all his Forces; then they were confident the Castle would be delivered presently. But there they found a man of courage, that brave man Sir *Edward Peto*, who upon the first message, sent the Lords an absolute answer, hee would not deliver up the castle: they gave him two houres time, & sent againe, Sir *Edward* sent an angrie answer, that they might have taken his word at the first. The Lords planted their Ordnance against the castle, and discharged one, and Sir *Edward* in requitall discharged two, and bid them (as they like that) shoot againe: then Sir *Edward* made Proclamation, that all his friends should depart the towne, and for the rest, bid them looke to themselves: he hung out of the castle a bloody flag, and a flag of defiance, with a crosse upon it, in defiance of the Papists, and now shoots night and day with double Muskets, that kill 20 score: hee shot thorow the house where the Lord *Compton* lay, which made him remove his lodging. The Lord *Compton* being planting Ordnance upon the tower of the Church, Sir *Edward* discharged an Ordnance from the castle, which tooke off a pinnacle of the tower, and made the Cavaliers stir: neverthelesse he discharged the Ordnance, being one they took from Banbury, which broke all in peeces, and (some say) hurt the Lord *Comptons* son. Whereupon they suspect all the Ordnance that came from Banbury to be poysoned. A fellow of my Lord of Norths going over the street, with a shoulder of Mutton in his hand, held it up, and said, *Look here, you Round-heads, you would be glad of a bit of this.* And presently fell downe dead, being shot from the Castle. There are not many yet slaine, the Castle stands untoucht, and Sir *Edward* now hung out his winding sheet and Bible. The Earle of Northampton is gone out of Warwick (it is supposed) to meet the King, whom they say will be at Warwick this night. The Trained Bands are summoned (upon paine of death) to appeare at Warwick, to guard the Kings Person: there are many gone; some say Sir *Edward Peto* promisseth to deliver the Castle unto the King upon his comming; but I beleieve it must be upon verie good termes. I heare there came fiftie Troopers last week to Coventry, and there desired to come in; they took them, and disarmed them, and staid their Horse. Our Papists begin to stir, they disarm private men, and take their Armes out of their houses; they have taken Sir *Edward Peto's* horses out of the stable, eight for the saddle: they kill all my Lord *Brooks* Deere; but Sir *Edward Peto* is a brave resolute Gentleman, and hath got a great deale of honour. We expect my Lord *Say*, or some other Parliament man to countenance us, for we are almost borne downe with great ones.

His Informant saith, that on Tuesday morning the ninth of this instant August, before Sun-rise, about fourscore Troopers armed with Carbines and Pistols, came to Killesby, with a Trumpet before them, and beset the house of *John Hollis* the elder, but cannot tell what they said to them in the house, being far distant from them; At which time and place this Informant upon hearing the Trumpet, came and found one *Thomas Winks* there shot dead in the brest: And this Informant enquiring of one *Obadiab Marriot* who was present, and how it came to passe, he said that hee heard the said *Winks* say, hee was for the King and Parliament, and thereupon he was shot.

And the said *Marriot* saying they had slaine a faithfull Subject of the Kings, one of the said Troopers struck him three or foure times with a sword, and thereupon hee fled: And this Informant saith, that he was also shot at, and also *Moses Howlat*, who said only he was for the King, and *Thomas Clark* and *Zephaniab Crick*, and divers others were shot at and wounded thereby, and *John Whitewas* there dangerously wounded by one of the Troopers with a pitch-fork which was taken from one of the neighbours, and one *Henry Barfoot* was also killed; but this Informant was not present when he was slaine.

Read in the House of Commons, and ordered to be forthwith printed.

Hen. Elsynge, Cler. Parl. D. Com.

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